Tab 5

Report on High School Graduate Performance

Coordinating Board for Higher Education
March 5, 2025

BACKGROUND

The Coordinating Board for Higher Education's *Missouri Report on High School Graduates Performance* tracks Missouri's public high school graduates entering the state's public two- and four-year degree-granting postsecondary institutions as first-time full-time degree-seeking undergraduate students in the fall semester following their high school graduation. The annual report, which was first issued in 1996, provides information to secondary and postsecondary stakeholders regarding student preparation, persistence, and completion.

The statute that authorizes the CBHE to prepare the annual report (§ 173.750, RSMo) outlines the report's contents, which must include "grade point averages after the initial college year…; the percentage of students returning to college after the first and second half of the initial college year, or after each trimester of the initial college year; the percentage of students taking noncollege level classes in basic academic courses during the first college year, or remedial courses in basic academic subjects of English, mathematics, or reading; and other such data as determined by rule and regulation of the coordinating board for higher education."

CURRENT STATUS

Overall postsecondary enrollment of public high school graduates in public in-state colleges and universities remained flat over the past year. Total enrollment in remediation continues to decline, from 14.6 percent in 2023 to 13.3 percent in 2024.

Fall-to-fall persistence increased in the past year, as 78.9 percent of the fall 2023 cohort re-enrolled in a public institution in fall 2024, compared to 77.9 percent from 2022 to 2023. For degree completion, 55.6 percent of incoming students in fall 2018 had earned a degree or certificate from a public two- or four-year institution by spring 2023. This is a slight increase from 55.0 percent for the 2017 cohort.

Enrollment and Preparation

This year's report provides data about postsecondary enrollment and preparation of the public high school graduating class of 2024. Total enrollment of same-year Missouri public high school graduates in Missouri public institutions stayed mostly flat from 18,539 first-time full-time degree-seeking undergraduates in 2023 to 18,541 in 2024. Since 2014, total enrollment from the same group declined 17.9 percent.

Regarding first-time full-time degree-seeking undergraduates who were recent Missouri public high school graduates, Black students constitute 8.4 percent of the cohort, White students constitute 73.0 percent, Hispanic/Latino/a students constitute 6.9 percent, Asian/Pacific Islander students constitute 2.9 percent, and Other/Unknown students (including multiracial students) constitute 8.9 percent of the total cohort. Detailed summary tables are included in the attachment to this item.

Other Trends in Enrollment and Preparation

- Overall enrollment in remedial coursework and enrollment in remedial math have declined each year since fall 2012. Enrollment in remedial English has decreased from fall 2022. Enrollment in remedial reading increased by 0.1 percent going between fall 2023 and 2024.

Remedial Participation of Recent Missouri Public High School Graduates in Public Postsecondary Institutions					
	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	Fall 2022	Fall 2023	Fall 2024
Total	17.3%	16.9%	15.5%	14.6%	13.3%
Math	13.1%	12.5%	11.0%	10.2%	9.0%
English	6.5%	7.2%	7.1%	6.8%	6.2%
Reading	3.7%	3.3%	3.0%	2.5%	2.6%

- For recent Missouri public high school graduates, 14.4 percent of women and 12.0 percent of men were enrolled in at least one remedial course in fall 2024.

- For recent Missouri public high school graduates, 22.8 percent of Black students were enrolled in at least one remedial course, 11.5 percent of White students were enrolled in at least one remedial course, 19.2 percent of Hispanic/Latino/a students were enrolled in at least one remedial course, 9.9 percent of Asian/Pacific Islander students were enrolled in at least one remedial course, and 15.9 percent of Other/Unknown students were enrolled in at least one remedial course in fall 2024.

Performance and Retention in College

The *Missouri Report on High School Graduates Performance* also tracks several measures of student success and persistence in Missouri's public postsecondary sector. This year's report provides data on performance and retention in college for the public high school graduating class of 2024. Detailed summary tables are attached to this item. Among the more significant findings are:

- Fall-to-fall retention, which has been generally stable in recent years, is 78.9 percent for the fall 2023 cohort. Fall-to-fall retention rates were 68.1 percent for Black students, 80.4 percent for White students, 74.2 percent for Hispanic/Latino/a students, 89.3 percent for Asian/Pacific Islander students, and 76.4 percent for Other/Unknown students.
- On average, this cohort completed 35.1 credits by the end of the spring 2024 term with a 3.06 grade point average. Women completed 36.6 credits with a 3.10 GPA. Men completed 33.4 credits with a 3.01 GPA. Credits completed include dual/advanced credit accomplished prior to enrollment.
- Students at two-year institutions (open admissions) completed 27.6 credits through spring 2024 with a 2.93 GPA. Students at four-year institutions, including open admissions and moderately selective, selective, and highly selective institutions completed 41.4 credits through spring 2024 with a 3.16 GPA.

Degree Completion

The timely completion of a certificate or degree is an additional indication of how well-prepared Missouri's high school graduates are for college-level work. Detailed tables attached to this item show the six-year degree completion rate of students beginning college in the fall of 2018.

The findings include:

- Among incoming public Missouri high school students who entered as a first-time full-time degree-seeking undergraduate in fall 2018, 55.6 percent had earned a degree or certificate from a public Missouri college or university by spring 2024. This is a slight increase from the rate for the 2017 cohort (55.0 percent). This rate does not account for transfer to or completion from an independent or out-of-state institution.

- Of the fall 2018 cohort, 38.8 percent had earned a bachelor's degree, 20.4 percent earned an associate degree, and 3.1 percent earned a graduate or professional degree within six years. 10.6 percent earned an undergraduate certificate.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will continue to track the performance of recent public high school graduates annually.

RECOMMENDATION

This is an information only item.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment A: Enrollment and Preparation, Performance and Retention in College, and Degree Completion Tables

Tab 5 Attachment

Missouri High School Graduates: Enrollment and Preparation, Performance and Retention in College, and Degree Completion Tables for First-time, Full-time, Degree-Seeking Students

Table 1: Recent Public Missouri High School Graduate Enrollment by Sector, Gender, and Race/Ethnicity, 2014 to 2024

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	10-Year % Change	1-Year % Change
Overall Enrollment	22,593	21,426	21,836	22,160	22,067	20,850	19,529	18,606	18,592	18,539	18,541	-17.9%	0.0%
Two-Year	10,693	9,295	9,771	10,423	10,401	9,899	9,378	9,330	9,276	8,940	8,811	-17.6%	-1.4%
	47.3%	43.4%	44.7%	47.0%	47.1%	47.5%	48.0%	50.1%	49.9%	48.2%	47.5%		
Four Year	11,900	12,131	12,065	11,737	11,666	10,951	10,151	9,276	9,316	9,599	9,730	-18.2%	1.4%
	52.7%	56.6%	55.3%	53.0%	52.9%	52.5%	52.0%	49.9%	50.1%	51.8%	52.5%		
Women	12,437	11,808	11,985	12,275	12,169	11,675	10,968	10,392	10,348	10,295	10,249	-17.6%	-0.4%
	55.0%	55.1%	54.9%	55.4%	55.1%	56.0%	56.2%	55.9%	55.7%	55.5%	55.3%		
Men	10,147	9,609	9,841	9,872	9,881	9,161	8,534	8,130	8,179	8,147	8,192	-19.3%	0.6%
	45.0%	44.9%	45.1%	44.5%	44.8%	43.9%	43.7%	43.7%	44.0%	43.9%	44.2%		
Black / African-American	2,112	2,010	2,140	2,060	1,987	1,794	1,471	1,287	1,370	1,439	1,556	-26.3%	8.1%
	9.2%	9.4%	9.8%	9.3%	9.0%	8.6%	7.5%	6.9%	7.4%	7.8%	8.4%		
White	17,773	16,769	17,008	17,184	17,036	15,925	15,201	14,478	14,187	13,885	13,528	-23.9%	-2.6%
	76.1%	78.3%	77.9%	77.5%	77.2%	76.4%	77.8%	77.8%	76.3%	74.9%	73.0%		
Hispanic / Latino/a	862	845	885	1,019	1,074	1,169	1,085	1,150	1,210	1,299	1,273	47.7%	-2.0%
	2.8%	3.9%	4.1%	4.6%	4.9%	5.6%	5.6%	6.2%	6.5%	7.0%	6.9%		
Asian / Pacific Islander	547	497	489	483	489	531	484	542	517	496	538	-1.6%	8.5%
	2.4%	2.3%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.5%	2.5%	2.9%	2.8%	2.7%	2.9%		
Other / Unknown	1,299	1,305	1,314	1,414	1,481	1,431	1,288	1,149	1,308	1,420	1,646	26.7%	15.9%
	9.6%	6.1%	6.0%	6.4%	6.7%	6.9%	6.6%	6.2%	7.0%	7.7%	8.9%		

Data Source: Enhanced Missouri Student Achievement Study (EMSAS)

Table 2: Recent Missouri Public High School Graduate Enrollment in Remediation by Institutional Admissions Selectivity; 2020 to 2024	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Selective	**4.5%**	**6.4%**	**4.5%**	**5.0%**	**3.7%**
Math	3.9%	5.5%	4.2%	4.3%	3.2%
English	0.8%	1.4%	0.5%	1.0%	0.8%
Reading	-				
Moderately Selective	**18.8%**	**22.3%**	**20.4%**	**15.6%**	**16.2%**
Math	12.7%	14.6%	13.9%	9.1%	11.4%
English	7.7%	9.8%	8.7%	8.2%	7.1%
Reading	0.2%				
Open	**26.1%**	**22.9%**	**21.6%**	**21.6%**	**20.1%**
Math	19.8%	17.1%	15.0%	15.1%	13.0%
English	10.1%	10.3%	10.8%	10.7%	10.0%
Reading	7.2%	6.3%	5.5%	4.8%	5.2%

Source: Enhanced Missouri Achievement Study (EMSAS)

Table 3: Recent Missouri Public High School Graduate Enrollment in Remediation by Gender; 2020 to 2024	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Women	**18.3%**	**17.6%**	**15.5%**	**15.2%**	**14.4%**
Math	14.1%	13.1%	10.8%	10.6%	9.8%
English	6.6%	7.3%	7.2%	7.3%	6.8%
Reading	4.3%	3.5%	3.0%	2.5%	2.9%
Men	**16.0%**	**16.0%**	**15.4%**	**13.8%**	**12.0%**
Math	11.7%	11.7%	11.2%	9.6%	7.9%
English	6.3%	7.0%	6.9%	6.2%	5.5%
Reading	3.0%	3.0%	2.9%	2.5%	2.3%

Source: Enhanced Missouri Achievement Study (EMSAS)

Table 4: Recent Missouri Public High School Graduate Enrollment in Remediation by Race / Ethnicity; 2020 to 2024	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Black / African-American	**32.2%**	**31.5%**	**26.3%**	**22.7%**	**22.8%**
Math	24.6%	23.3%	17.4%	13.9%	13.2%
English	15.2%	16.6%	15.4%	14.0%	13.9%
Reading	11.4%	11.2%	9.6%	8.5%	9.3%
White	**15.2%**	**15.2%**	**13.8%**	**13.2%**	**11.5%**
Math	11.5%	11.2%	10.0%	9.5%	8.1%
English	5.3%	6.0%	5.8%	5.7%	4.9%
Reading	2.6%	2.4%	1.9%	1.6%	1.6%
Hispanic / Latino/a	**22.7%**	**22.3%**	**21.5%**	**19.9%**	**19.2%**
Math	17.5%	16.8%	14.4%	13.8%	13.0%
English	8.7%	10.7%	10.2%	10.2%	8.8%
Reading	5.4%	5.0%	5.6%	4.8%	4.9%
Asian / Pacific Islander	**11.4%**	**9.4%**	**9.1%**	**10.5%**	**9.9%**
Math	8.1%	7.0%	5.4%	5.0%	5.6%
English	4.5%	6.5%	6.2%	6.9%	4.5%
Reading	3.3%	3.1%	3.9%	2.2%	2.0%
Other / Unknown	**23.0%**	**20.9%**	**19.9%**	**16.3%**	**15.9%**
Math	16.8%	15.3%	13.9%	11.6%	10.3%
English	9.4%	8.3%	9.6%	7.8%	7.8%
Reading	7.3%	4.6%	4.6%	2.9%	3.6%

Source: Enhanced Missouri Achievement Study (EMSAS)

Performance and Retention in College

Table 5: Recent Missouri Public High School Graduate Retention by Gender and Race/Ethnicity; Fall 2023 - Fall 2024

	Students	Completed Fall 2023	Avg. Fall 2023 GPA	Avg. Credits Completed (Fall 2023)	Completed Spring 2024	Avg. Spring 2024 GPA	Avg. Credits Completed (Spring 2024)	Enrolled Fall 2024
Female	10,307	97.9%	3.04	24.0	88.0%	3.10	36.6	79.9%
Black / African-American	873	96.8%	2.45	16.4	82.6%	2.53	27.0	70.9%
White	7,692	98.1%	3.13	25.2	88.8%	3.18	38.0	81.2%
Hispanic / Latino/a	744	97.6%	2.86	20.4	85.6%	2.94	33.1	77.6%
Asian / Pacific Islander	250	100.0%	3.33	28.2	95.2%	3.35	41.2	89.6%
Other / Unknown	748	96.9%	2.90	21.9	85.3%	2.95	34.1	75.4%
Male	8,154	98.0%	2.94	21.4	87.8%	3.01	33.4	77.9%
Black / African-American	561	97.9%	2.30	14.6	80.2%	2.40	24.3	64.2%
White	6,138	98.0%	3.02	22.1	88.8%	3.08	34.1	79.4%
Hispanic / Latino/a	550	97.8%	2.64	18.9	82.7%	2.75	31.6	69.8%
Asian / Pacific Islander	243	97.1%	3.10	24.3	92.6%	3.06	36.9	89.3%
Other / Unknown	662	98.8%	2.90	22.1	87.5%	2.98	33.8	77.5%
Total	18,558	98.0%	2.99	22.8	87.9%	3.06	35.1	78.9%
Black / African-American	1,439	97.2%	2.39	15.7	81.7%	2.48	25.9	68.1%
White	13,899	98.0%	3.08	23.8	88.8%	3.13	36.3	80.4%
Hispanic / Latino/a	1,300	97.7%	2.77	19.7	84.4%	2.86	32.4	74.2%
Asian / Pacific Islander	496	98.6%	3.22	26.3	93.8%	3.21	39.0	89.3%
Other / Unknown	1,424	97.8%	2.90	21.9	86.2%	2.97	33.8	76.4%

Source: Enhanced Missouri Achievement Study (EMSAS)

Table 6: Recent Missouri Public High School Graduate Retention by Sector and Race/Ethnicity; Fall 2023 - Fall 2024								
	Students	Completed Fall 2023	Avg. Fall 2023 GPA	Avg. Credits Completed (Fall 2023)	Completed Spring 2024	Avg. Spring 2024 GPA	Avg. Credits Completed (Spring 2024)	Enrolled Fall 2024
Public 2Y	8,954	96.8%	2.81	17.8	82.7%	2.93	27.6	70.6%
Black / African-American	604	95.0%	2.15	12.8	75.3%	2.35	20.3	60.1%
White	6,841	96.9%	2.90	18.5	83.6%	3.00	28.4	71.7%
Hispanic / Latino/a	707	97.6%	2.58	16.4	80.1%	2.72	27.7	68.6%
Asian / Pacific Islander	177	97.7%	2.90	18.9	88.1%	2.93	27.8	79.7%
Other / Unknown	625	96.6%	2.69	15.9	81.3%	2.81	24.7	69.1%
Public 4Y	9,604	99.0%	3.16	27.4	92.6%	3.16	41.4	86.6%
Black / African-American	835	98.8%	2.56	17.7	86.3%	2.56	29.4	73.9%
White	7,058	99.1%	3.25	28.8	93.7%	3.24	43.0	88.8%
Hispanic / Latino/a	593	97.8%	2.99	23.6	89.5%	3.00	37.5	80.8%
Asian / Pacific Islander	319	99.1%	3.39	30.3	96.9%	3.36	44.7	94.7%
Other / Unknown	799	98.7%	3.07	26.5	90.1%	3.08	40.3	82.1%

Source: Enhanced Missouri Achievement Study (EMSAS)

Degree Completion

Table 7: Recent Missouri Public High School Graduate Six-Year Completion Rate by Gender and Race/Ethnicity; Fall 2018 through Spring 2024

	Students	Total Completions	% Completed Certificate	% Completed Associate	% Completed at Least Bachelor's	% Completed Graduate / Professional
Female	12,169	**57.9%**	**11.2%**	**21.4%**	**41.2%**	**3.5%**
Black / African-American	1,178	35.0%	7.8%	10.3%	26.1%	0.8%
White	9,345	61.6%	11.3%	23.1%	43.6%	3.9%
Hispanic / Latino/a	601	49.6%	14.6%	23.0%	33.1%	1.3%
Asian / Pacific Islander	257	70.0%	12.5%	16.3%	60.7%	5.4%
Other / Unknown	788	50.5%	12.9%	18.8%	35.0%	3.3%
Male	9,881	**52.8%**	**9.8%**	**19.1%**	**35.9%**	**2.6%**
Black / African-American	809	25.0%	3.8%	7.0%	19.2%	0.5%
White	7,676	56.9%	10.2%	20.8%	38.4%	2.8%
Hispanic / Latino/a	472	43.6%	12.7%	16.1%	28.0%	1.7%
Asian / Pacific Islander	232	60.8%	10.8%	14.2%	50.0%	6.0%
Other / Unknown	692	43.2%	10.5%	17.3%	28.2%	1.7%
Total	22,067	**55.6%**	**10.6%**	**20.4%**	**38.8%**	**3.1%**
Black / African-American	1,987	30.9%	6.2%	9.0%	23.3%	0.7%
White	17,036	59.5%	10.8%	22.0%	41.2%	3.4%
Hispanic / Latino/a	1,074	47.0%	13.8%	20.0%	30.8%	1.5%
Asian / Pacific Islander	489	65.6%	11.7%	15.3%	55.6%	5.7%
Other / Unknown	1,481	47.1%	11.8%	18.1%	31.8%	2.6%

Source: Enhanced Missouri Student Achievement Study (EMSAS)

Table 8: Recent Missouri Public High School Graduate Six-Year Completion Rate by Institutional Admissions Selectivity; Fall 2018 through Spring 2024

	Students	Total Completions	% Completed Certificate	% Completed Associate	% Completed at Least Bachelor's	% Completed Graduate/Professional
Highly Selective	1,631	75.4%	2.5%	4.7%	71.7%	8.1%
Selective	5,651	70.0%	14.6%	3.1%	66.7%	6.5%
Moderately Selective	3,320	57.6%	5.4%	4.4%	54.5%	2.8%
Open	11,465	45.1%	11.3%	35.7%	15.8%	0.7%

Source: Enhanced Missouri Student Achievement Study (EMSAS)